

NEW SHOREHAM SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEETING
Block Island School
May 21, 2012
7:00 p.m.

The New Shoreham School Committee met in open session on Monday, May 21, 2012, in the media center of the Block Island School. Chair William Padien called the meeting to order at 7:25 p.m. The following members were present: Patricia Doyle, Ann Hall, Sean McGarry, and William Padien. Elizabeth Connor was not in attendance. Robert Hicks was also present.

Approval of Minutes

A motion (McGarry, Padien) to approve the minutes of the meeting held on April 9, 2012, as presented carried with a vote of 4-0.

A motion (McGarry, Hall) to approve the minutes of the meeting held on April 30, 2012, as presented carried with a vote of 4-0.

Reports

Mr. Hicks submitted a flyer on the Rhode Island Growth Model, “a statistical model that provides a new, more comprehensive way of looking at student achievement by enabling us to look at growth from one year to the next, in addition to proficiency in any given year.” In addition, he submitted Block Island School’s growth model, explaining that the higher you are on the graph the better your proficiency and the farther to the right the better the growth, with both our reading and math scores in the “northeast” quadrant.

The finance report through April 30, 2012, was submitted, showing a projected fund balance of \$34,393. Mr. Hicks feels this is a conservative estimate. A motion (Padien, Doyle) to accept the finance report through April 30, 2012, as presented carried with a vote of 4-0.

Old Business – 2012-2013 Budget

Mr. Hicks reported that the voters approved the Town Council’s recommended school budget, which was \$31,571 less than we requested. Mr. Hicks would prefer to have final numbers for health care and state aid before bringing an updated budget back to the committee for approval.

New Business

A motion (Padien, Hall) to approve the posting of Policy HIA: Student Activities Advisors for the required 30-day period carried with a vote of 4-0.

A motion (Padien, Hall) to approve the posting of Policy FBF: Graduation Requirements for the required 30-day period carried with a vote of 4-0.

A motion (Padien, Hall) to approve the posting of Policy GM: School Wellness for the required 30-day period carried with a vote of 4-0.

Monty Stover was in attendance to discuss the current school year's dental contract and apologized for submitting it to the committee in May. He hopes to take a closer look at the budget numbers for next year's contract before bringing it to the committee, perhaps in September. He corrected a typo in the contract, which was signed earlier in the day by Pam Hinthorn, Block Island Health Services President. A motion (Padien, Doyle) to approve and sign the dental contract with the Block Island Medical Center for the 2011-2012 school year carried with a vote of 4-0.

A motion (Padien, Hall) to consent to the appointment of Scott Nelson as a custodian at the rate of \$16.50 per hour and as the maintenance supervisor with a \$10,000 stipend carried with a vote of 3-1 with Sean McGarry voting in the negative. Mr. McGarry felt that it is a conflict of interest for the same person to hold both positions.

A motion (Padien, Hall) to consent to the appointment of Kristine Monje to the math support position for the 2012-2013 school year carried with a vote of 3-1 with Sean McGarry voting in the negative. Mr. McGarry stated that a job description was never presented to the committee and the position should have been advertised on SchoolSpring to draw a larger applicant pool.

A motion (Padien, McGarry) to consent to the extended school year appointments of Victoria Carson as a special education teacher, Kathleen Schlenz as the occupational therapist, Pat O'Leary as the physical therapist; and Martha Velie-Gass as a special education teacher carried with a vote of 4-0.

A motion (Padien, Hall) to consent to the reappointments of Patricia Balles – Administrative Assistant, Marianne Brown – Bus Monitor, Pamela Buol – Teacher Assistant, John Canole – Principal, Virginia Collins – Food Service Helper, Scott Comings – Educational Consultant, Lynne Cunningham – Office Manager, Sarah Deane – Food Service Helper, Amy Dugan – Teacher Assistant, Lynn Fletcher – Custodian, Betty Gomes – Guidance Counselor, Marsha Gutierrez – Administrative Assistant, Mark Hawk – Special Education Director, Stacy Henshaw – Teacher Assistant, Bernice Johnson – Custodian, Karen Kurzman – Principal, and Renee Meyer – Finance Director carried with a vote of 4-0.

A motion (Padien, Hall) to consent to the reappointments of Shannon Morgan – Cultural Activities Coordinator, Lisa Robb – Teacher Assistant, Jill Seppa – Cultural Activities Coordinator, and Hank Woodward – Technology Specialist carried with a vote of 4-0.

It was noted that members of the New Shoreham Employees' Association would receive raises in accordance with the recently signed wage agreement. It was requested that Shannon Morgan and Jill Seppa report to the School Committee on this past year's activities and what they have in mind for next year.

Mr. Hicks explained that the increase in salaries/wages for the finance director, administrative assistant, non-certified personnel, and athletic personnel was modeled on the collective bargaining unit for the town employees, which is a net increase of about two percent. The part-time certified personnel (principals, guidance counselor, special education director, and superintendent) took a freeze last year with the town employees and Mr. Hicks suggested that

their salaries be increased by half of a percent, which is the amount the teacher scale increased last year. A motion (Padien, Hall) to approve the non-union salaries (Finance Director \$47,918; Administrative Assistant \$66,212; an overall two percent increase for athletic and non-certified personnel; and an increase of 0.5 percent for the principals, guidance counselor, special education director, and superintendent carried with a vote of 4-0.

Calendar of Events

Committee members suggested June 4 for the dinner with the senior class. It was requested that the June and July meetings be changed due to conflicts with the dates. A motion (Padien, Hall) to move the June meeting from the 18th to the 11th carried with a vote of 4-0. A motion (Padien, Hall) to move the July meeting from the 16th to the 23rd carried with a vote of 4-0.

Adjournment

A motion (Padien, Doyle) at 8:40 p.m. to adjourn carried with a vote of 4-0.

Marsha L. Gutierrez, Clerk

Date approved: June 11, 2012